

The House Oversight Committee [held a hearing](#) on Thursday, May 27, 2010 to examine Johnson & Johnson's recall of popular pediatric medications.



Matthew Perone from the Associated Press [reported on the hearing](#) :

Congressional investigators said Wednesday that Johnson & Johnson hired a private company which bought up defective packets of pain relievers in 2008 before recalling the pills months later, after prodding from federal regulators.

The new questions about J&J's handling of quality issues came during a hearing about its latest recall involving over 100 million bottles of children's medicine, some of which contained tiny particles of metal.

"This is an issue of trust, when parents and grandparents give these medicines to their children they want to be confident that they are not harmful," said Rep. Edolphus Towns, D-N.Y., who chairs the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform...

Chairman Towns said he would continue investigating the "phantom recall" and asked Goggins to follow-up on the committee's questions.

"Who at McNeil and Johnson & Johnson knew about this scheme?" asked Towns "How high up in the corporate suite was this scheme hatched?"

In testimony Thursday, [FDA Deputy Commissioner Joshua] Sharfstein laid out J&J's repeated violations of quality and manufacturing procedures, which have resulted in three recalls in the last eight months.

FDA held a meeting with J&J executives in February pressing them to improve their manufacturing operations.

In his closing statement at the hearing, Chairman Towns announced that he [plans on introducing legislation](#) to give the FDA the authority to issue mandatory recalls.

